

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**1. (Currently Amended)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus for reproducing coded data included in a plurality of packets, wherein a packet start code indicating a packet boundary between a subsequent packet is placed at a head portion of each packet, said coded signal reproduction apparatus comprising:

a matching status information outputter operable to detect whether a sequence of input code is a part of the packet start code, and to output the detection result as matching status information; and

a data formatter operable to output predetermined data in accordance with the matching status information when the sequence of input code is judged not to be a part of the packet start code but to be a part of a particular sequence of coded data, and not to output the predetermined data when the sequence of input code is judged to be a part of the packet start code,

wherein the particular sequence of coded data and the packet start code have ~~similar patterns~~ the same prefix code consisting of plural bytes.

**2. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 21, wherein said matching status information outputter includes:

a matching status historical information hold unit operable to receive matching information indicating whether the current input code of the sequence of input code matches the current code of the packet start code from said head code detection unit, and to hold historical information indicating how many consecutive times the current input code of the sequence of input code matches the current code of the packet start code,

wherein said head code detection unit identifies the current input code of the packet start code based on the historical information stored on said matching status historical information hold unit.

**3. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 2, wherein said matching status information outputter includes:

a start code discriminator operable to discriminate the packet start code by using a packet start code identifier existing in the last part of the packet start code when the historical information indicates that the sequence of input code matches the packet start code other than the packet start code identifier.

**4. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 2, wherein said matching status information outputter includes:

a start code discriminator operable to discriminate a hierarchy start code of video data in accordance with a video hierarchy identifier of coded video data which exists in a position corresponding to the last part of the packet start code when the historical information indicates that the sequence of input code matches the packet start code other than the packet start code identifier.

**5. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 1, further comprising:

a header analyzer operable to analyze the header of the packet to output reproduction information when the code which is input is coded video data;

wherein said data formatter is operable to insert the reproduction information together with information indicating effectiveness of the reproduction information, in a predetermined position in the coded video data.

**6. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 5, wherein said header analyzer includes a header analysis unit operable to analyze the header of the packet and to output the reproduction information, and a reproduction information hold unit operable to hold the reproduction information.

**7. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 6, wherein said header analyzer is operable to activate when the packet start code is identified.

**8. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus comprising:  
an end code sequence detector operable to detect, from code sequences of coded data, a code sequence indicating the end of the coded data, the code sequence indicating the end of the coded data being located at the end of the coded data; and

a formatter operable to pad a data bus with a predetermined number of pseudo data so that the code sequence indicating the end of the coded data is forwarded to the next stage of pipeline, when a code sequence indicating the end of the coded data is detected by said end code sequence detector,

wherein the coded data is transferred successively in a pipeline manner.

**9. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 8, further comprising:

a specific code sequence inserter operable to insert a specific code sequence in the last packet in a packet sequence before decoding;

wherein said formatter is operable to add a predetermined number of pseudo data to the rear of the specific code sequence.

**10. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 1, wherein the sequence of input code is a coded and multiplexed signal in which audio, video, and reproduction information annexed thereto are multiplexed.

**11. (Cancelled)**

**12. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 2, wherein the sequence of input code is a coded and multiplexed signal in which audio, video, and reproduction information annexed thereto are multiplexed.

**13. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 3, wherein the sequence of input code is a coded and multiplexed signal in which audio, video, and reproduction information annexed thereto are multiplexed.

**14. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 4, wherein the sequence of input code is a coded and multiplexed signal in which audio, video, and reproduction information annexed thereto are multiplexed.

**15. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 5, wherein the sequence of input code is a coded and multiplexed signal in which audio, video, and reproduction information annexed thereto are multiplexed.

**16. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 6, wherein the sequence of input code is a coded and multiplexed signal in which audio, video, and reproduction information annexed thereto are multiplexed.

**17. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 7, wherein the sequence of input code is a coded and multiplexed signal in which audio, video, and reproduction information annexed thereto are multiplexed.

**18. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 8, wherein the sequence of input code is a coded and multiplexed signal in which audio, video, and reproduction information annexed thereto are multiplexed.

**19. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 8,

wherein the end code sequence detector successively receives the code sequences of coded data and successively judges whether each of the received code sequences of coded data is the code sequence indicating the end of the coded data,

wherein the code sequences of coded data are transferred successively in a pipeline manner without adding the pseudo data when the received code sequences of coded data are judged not to be the code sequence indicating the end of the coded data.

**20. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 8, wherein after the code sequence indicating the end of coded data is transferred in a pipeline manner, remaining pseudo data is transferred successively in a pipeline manner.

**21. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 1, wherein said matching status information outputter includes a head code detection unit operable to receive the sequence of input code in units of a predetermined bit length, and to determine whether a current input code of the sequence of input code matches a current code of the packet start code.